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May 8, 2008

Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger
State Capitol
Sacramento, California

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

Thank you for your announcement on April 24, 2008 that aerial spraying of pheromones, conducted as part of the California Department of Food and Agriculture's eradication plan for the light brown apple moth will be postponed until a "six-pack" toxicology test, which includes oral, skin, eye, inhalation, and respiratory irritants, is completed.

The health and safety of our citizens and our environment must be our top priority as the eradication plan for the light brown apple moth moves forward. Many of my constituents have expressed concern about potential health consequences associated with aerial spraying in California. With this in mind, I pose the following questions about the light brown apple moth eradication plan:

1. What are the short-and long-term health effects of the CheckMate® aerial spray, including the inert ingredients?
2. What is the economic risk of employing ground-based alternatives such as twist ties until a thorough environmental and health assessment of aerial spraying is conducted?
3. What is the likelihood that the aerial spraying will succeed in eradicating the light brown apple moth from California?
4. Can other interventions be effective in eradicating the light brown apple moth to the extent possible, including introduction of a natural predator or ground-based alternatives?

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your response.

Best regards,



NANCY PELOSI
Speaker of the House